

London, June 29, 1840.

My dear Helen:

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I have now been in London eleven days, and, for the first time since my arrival, take up my pen to send you a hasty epistle by the British Queen—having been too busy to despatch any letters home until now. Accompanying this, you will receive several others, which were written during my voyage to Liverpool, and which would have been forwarded to you from that port, had I not supposed that they would reach you sooner by the B. Q. than by the packet-ship. If bro. Johnson shall feel disposed to make any extracts from them, for the Liberator, or from any of the letters I have sent to other friends, he can do so. It will not be possible for me to write much for the paper directly.

The first thing which you and the household, and all our anti-slavery friends, will wish to hear about, is the Convention. On the score of respectability, talent and numbers, it deserves much consideration; but it was sadly deficient in freedom of thought, speech and action, ^{having been} ~~being~~ under the exclusive management of the London Committee, whose dominion was recognized as absolute. At the opening of the Convention, Wendell Phillips moved that the female delegates from the U.S. be admitted to seats therein; which motion he sustained in a spirited manner, and was followed by Bradburn and Prof. Adams, and one or two others, on the same side. It was rejected, however, by a very large majority, on the ground of custom and usage. George Thompson deprecated its introduction, and urged Wendell to withdraw it! All this was some days before our arrival. As soon as we learnt the result,—and, especially, that the London Committee assumed to take the management of affairs into their own hands,—we (i.e. Roger, Remond, Wm. Adams of Law-

13 My darling, precious, unmineralized baby! How they will be the
suppose of the father, or how from his eyes? How their morning in
around me heart-stung; & my hope of kisses for them and their mother!

tucket, and myself, (I refused to take a seat in the Convention, or to enroll
our names on the list of delegates. This created much uneasiness on the
part of that body, and no pains were spared to seduce us from our po-
sition; but we remained inflexible to the end - looking on, as silent spec-
tators, from the galleries, from day to day. I am quite certain, from all
that has transpired, that, had we arrived a few days before the opening of
the Convention, we could have carried our point triumphantly. As it is,
we have not visited this country in vain. The "woman question" has been
fairly started, and will be canvassed from the Sand's End to John o' Groat's
house. Already, many excellent and noble minds are highly displeased
at the decision of the Convention, and denounce it strongly. The new organ-
izers have done what they could to injure us, and have succeeded in
creating some prejudice against us, especially on the part of the clergy;
but the effect will be temporary. We have all been treated with the
utmost respect and hospitality, and invitations to go here and there
are pouring in upon us from all quarters. An excellent Protest against
the exclusion of women was drawn up by Prof. Adam, and signed by
himself, Phillips, Bradburn, Mott, Col. Miller, &c., and presented to the
Convention, which, on motion of Colver, seconded by Scoble, was laid on
the table, and refused a place among the printed proceedings! We, who
refused to connect ourselves with the Convention, shall have a separate
Protest of our own, which we shall publish in some one of the London
newspapers. Rely upon it, we have acted most wisely in this matter; but
I cannot now go into particulars. For the proceedings of the Convention,
I refer you to the papers accompanying this. It was in session only ten
days, but disposed of a considerable amount of business. On Wednesday,
a public meeting was held in Exeter Hall, and went off with great

It is no doubt for me to say, that you must give my affectionate remembrance to all at home, and to all my friends. My health was never better. I shall endeavor to take the promised country myself. Rogers says he has to see.

The assembly was immense, and the various speakers were received in the most enthusiastic manner. When O'Connell made his appearance, the applause was absolutely deafening. He made a speech of great power, and denounced American slaveholders in blistering language - at the same time paying the highest compliments to American abolitionists. No invitation was given to Thompson, Phillips, or myself, to speak; but Binney was assigned a part, and so was Stanton. Remond stepped forward of his own accord, and was repeatedly cheered by the audience. He took them by surprise, and acquitted himself very creditably. Prejudices against color is unknown here.

Rogers and I have boarded at the same house with Stanton and his wife, Colver, Grover, James & Lucretia Mott, Isaac Winslow and daughter, Abby Southwick, (who are all well,) and several other delegates. Mrs. Stanton is a fearless woman, and goes for woman's rights with all her soul. Stanton voted right in Convention on the question. We have been to see Westminster Abbey, the Museum, the Tunnel, the Tower, St. Paul's, &c. &c. The talk now is, that we shall leave for Scotland in the course of a week, under the care and guidance of George Thompson. I feel considerable curiosity to see Glasgow and Edinburgh, and the Scottish highlands; yet can I truly say, 'there's ^{no} place like home.' Some of the Irish delegates insist upon it that I shall take a trip to Ireland. Perhaps we may conclude to visit Dublin. I have shaken hands with O'Connell repeatedly.

A thousand thanks for your affectionate letter, received by the British Queen. Every line it contained was full of interest, and served greatly to relieve my mind from a heavy load of anxiety. May all things go prosperously with you, dearest! And may the protection of Heaven be graciously vouchsafed to the dear children, and to us all! My heart is swelling with tender emotions. O, how I yearn to clasp you in my arms!

I have been introduced to Lady Byron, the Countess of Buns-
wick, Mrs. Opie, Mary and William Howitt, Elizabeth Fry, Anna Bar-
wicks, and other noted women. A splendid dinner has been given to the foreign
delegates, at which I spoke. Several elegant entertainments have also
been made for us. I let out all my theories, in my intercourse with those
who invite us together, and have made no little stir in consequence. Slavery
out of the question, our country is a century in advance of England on the
score of reform, and of general intelligence and morality. We, in
New-England, scarcely dream of the privileges we enjoy, and the enviable
condition in which we are placed, as contrasted with the state of things ~~here~~.

Wm

Mrs. Wm. Lloyd Garrison,

25, Cornhill,

Boston, Mass.



Dear Thompson has not been strengthened to do battle for us,
as I had confidently hoped he would be. He is placed in a difficult po-
sition, and seems disposed to take the ground of non-committal, publicly
respecting the controversy which is going on in the United States. Yet I
trust he will soon see his way clear to speak out in our behalf.

Perhaps I may conclude to return home in the Great West-
ern, which is to sail from Bristol on the 25th ^{July} ~~July~~. If not, I shall
aim to take the steamer Acadia, for Boston via Halifax, 4th August.

I am waiting, with all a husband's and a parent's anxiety, to
hear from you. May the intelligence prove pleasurable to my soul! Dearest,
I am
Your loving husband,
Wm. Lloyd Garrison.